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TAGS: PREL CH KN JA

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 12 MFA PRESS BRIEFING: NORTH KOREA, KIM JONG-IL VISIT RUMORS, CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL FOR DALAI LAMA, TAIWAN REJECTED AT UN, VENEZUELA ON UNSC, IRAN, MIL-MIL COOPERATION WITH USA, SINO-JAPAN RELATIONS, TERRITORIAL WATERS, UNIFIL, ZIMBABWE LOAN AND UPCOMING VISITS

11. KEY POINTS MADE AT THE SEPTEMBER 14 MFA PRESS BRIEFING WERE:

-- RESUMING THE SIX-PARTY TALKS REQUIRES EFFORTS BY ALL PARTIES. ON U.S. "SANCTIONS" AGAINST THE DPRK, CHINA SUPPORTS PROSECUTION OF THOSE COMMITTING FINANCIAL CRIMES BASED ON THE FACTS AND EVIDENCE.

-- THERE ARE "NO ARRANGEMENTS" FOR KIM JONG-IL TO VISIT CHINA.

-- THE U.S. CONGRESS' PROPOSAL TO AWARD A MEDAL TO THE DALAI LAMA SENDS "WRONG SIGNALS TO TIBETAN INDEPENDENCE FORCES" AND DAMAGES THE U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP.

-- TAIWAN'S EFFORT TO JOIN THE UNITED NATIONS "GETS TAIWAN NOWHERE."

-- CHINA SUPPORTS VENEZUELA'S BID FOR A SEAT AT THE UNSC.

--THE EU-3 DISCUSSIONS WITH IRAN PRODUCED SOME RESULTS AND THE PARTIES SHOULD GRASP THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESUME TALKS.

-- CHINA MAY BE READY TO ENHANCE MILITARY EXCHANGE WITH THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING STUDYING A PROPOSED MILITARY "HOT LINE."

-- RELATIONS WITH JAPAN CAN IMPROVE ONLY WITH REMOVAL OF POLITICAL OBSTACLES.

-- CHINA SEEKS TO AVOID DISPUTES WITH NEIGHBORS IN TERRITORIAL WATERS, INCLUDING NEAR A SOUTH KOREAN ISLAND WHERE CHINA REPORTEDLY CONDUCTED AERIAL SURVEILLANCE.

-- THE SPOKESMAN HAD NO NEW INFORMATION ABOUT CHINAS UNIFIL TROOP COMMITMENT OR A REPORTED LOAN TO ZIMBABWE.

--THE LITHUANIAN PRESIDENT WILL VISIT BEIJING. VICE PREMIER ZENG PEIYAN WILL TRAVEL TO HUNGARY, BELGIUM, IRELAND AND NORWAY.

SIX-PARTY TALKS

12. RESPONDING TO A REPORTER'S STATEMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES MIGHT LIFT FINANCIAL "SANCTIONS" AGAINST NORTH KOREA, MFA SPOKESPERSON QIN GANG SAID RESUMPTION OF THE SIX-PARTY TALKS NEEDS THE EFFORTS OF ALL SIX PARTIES TO ELIMINATE CURRENT OBSTACLES AND TO CREATE MUTUAL TRUST. WHEN PRESSED, QIN SAID CHINA'S POSITION ON FINANCIAL CRIMES IS CLEAR: PROSECUTING SUCH CRIMES REQUIRES "STICKING TO THE FACTS AND THE EVIDENCE."

13. ASKED WHETHER KIM JONG-IL WOULD VISIT CHINA IN THE NEAR FUTURE, QIN ANSWERED THAT THERE ARE "NO SUCH ARRANGEMENTS."

14. BEIJING IS NOT CONSIDERING ANY AMENDMENT OF ITS TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP WITH NORTH KOREA, QIN SAID. CHINA'S POSITION TOWARDS NORTH KOREA IS "CONSISTENT AND REMAINS UNCHANGED."

15. ASKED ABOUT A REPORT THAT A/S HILL RECENTLY OFFERED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD ENTER BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DPRK, QIN SAID FLATLY THE REPORT "IS NOT TRUE." QIN FOLLOWED UP BY SAYING CHINA SUPPORTS DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DPRK.

DALAI LAMA CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL

16. THE UNITED STATES IS SENDING "VERY SERIOUS WRONG SIGNALS TO TIBETAN INDEPENDENCE FORCES," "SERIOUSLY INTERFERING" WITH CHINESE INTERNAL ISSUES AND DAMAGING THE U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP BY THE U.S. CONGRESS' INSISTENCE, DESPITE BEING WELL-AWARE OF BEIJING'S VIEWS, ON GRANTING THE DALAI LAMA A CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL, STATED QIN. HE SAID THE WORDS AND ACTIONS OF THE DALAI LAMA ARE AIMED AT SPLITTING CHINA.

TAIWAN REJECTED AT THE UN

17. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT TAIWAN'S UNSUCCESSFUL BID

FOR UN MEMBERSHIP, QIN SAID TAIWAN FAILED FOR THE 14TH TIME IN ITS "SO-CALLED JOINING" OF THE UN, ADDING THAT CHALLENGING THE ONE CHINA POLICY "GETS TAIWAN NOWHERE." QIN ADMONISHED TAIWAN "TO CEASE THESE ATTEMPTS TO SPLIT THE COUNTRY."

VENEZUELAN SEAT ON THE UNSC

18. QIN CONFIRMED THAT PRESIDENT CHAVEZ OF VENEZUELA RAISED THE ISSUE OF A VENEZUELAN SEAT AT THE UNSC DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO CHINA. CHINA SUPPORTS THIS OUTCOME BECAUSE "AT PRESENT, CHINA HAS A SOUND AND VERY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP" WITH VENEZUELA, HE SAID.

IRAN

19. BEIJING MAINTAINS CLOSE COMMUNICATION WITH ALL RELEVANT PARTIES REGARDING THE IRAN NUCLEAR ISSUE AND IS MAKING POSITIVE EFFORTS AT THIS "CRUCIAL JUNCTURE" TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS, SAID QIN. THE EU-3 TALKS WITH IRAN GARNERED SOME ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHINA URGES ALL PARTIES TO MAINTAIN PATIENCE AND CALM TO FIND A WAY FORWARD. CHINA CALLS ON IRAN TO CONSIDER THE CONCERNs OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND COOPERATE WITH THE IAEA TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE. THE MAIN POINT IS TO GRASP THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE EU-3 AND IAEA AND GRAB THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESUME TALKS, HE SAID.

U.S.-CHINA MIL-MIL COOPERATION

10. THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA HELD JOINT SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISES AND CHINESE NAVAL VESSELS VISITED U.S. PORTS, REPORTED QIN. BEIJING HOPES SUCH MILITARY-TO-MILITARY COOPERATION CAN BE MAINTAINED AND WISHES TO ENHANCE DIALOGUE AND MUTUAL TRUST. CHINA STANDS READY TO ENHANCE, AND WOULD

CONSIDER EXPANDING, MILITARY EXCHANGE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT A POSSIBLE MILITARY "HOT LINE" BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON AND BEIJING, QIN SAID BEIJING IS OPEN TO DIALOGUE AND WOULD GIVE SUCH A PROPOSAL CAREFUL STUDY.

SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS

¶11. JAPAN IS A CLOSE NEIGHBOR AND CHINA ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO MILITARY COOPERATION WITH IT, BUT REMOVING POLITICAL OBSTACLES WILL BE NECESSARY TO FACILITATE SUCH COOPERATION, QIN SAID. ANSWERING A KYODO NEWS REPORTER'S QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER CHINESE LEADERS PLAN TO MEET AT THE APEC LEADERS MEETING WITH THE NEW PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN WHO WILL BE ELECTED NEXT MONTH, QIN SAID HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION. QIN SAID IT WILL TAKE JOINT EFFORTS TO REMOVE POLITICAL OBSTACLES AND RETURN TO "NORMAL DEVELOPMENT" OF CHINA-JAPAN RELATIONS.

DISPUTES OVER TERRITORIAL WATERS

¶12. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT CHINA'S DISPUTES WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES ABOUT TERRITORY IN THE SEAS SURROUNDING CHINA, QIN SAID CHINA WILL SAFEGUARD ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 1992 UN CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA AND THE 1996 DECLARATION ON THE BASELINES OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA. WHERE DISPUTES CANNOT BE RESOLVED NOW, CHINA SUPPORTS TRANSITIONING MEASURES, SHELVING DIFFERENCES AND GOING FORWARD WITH JOINT DEVELOPMENT.

CHINESE SURVEILLANCE OF KOREAN ISLAND

¶13. ASKED ABOUT A REPORT THAT CHINA CARRIED OUT AERIAL SURVEILLANCE ON SOUTH KOREAN FACILITIES ON IEO ISLAND (PRONOUNCED SUYAN IN CHINESE) IN THE EAST CHINA SEA, QIN RESPONDED THAT CHINA HAS NO SOVEREIGN DISPUTE WITH THE ROK OVER THE ISLAND AND CONSULTS WITH THE ROK OVER DEMARCACTION OF THE SEA.

NO INFORMATION ON UNIFIL COMMITMENTS, ZIMBABWE LOAN

¶14. THE SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD NOTHING NEW TO ADD ABOUT CHINA'S SUPPORT OF UNIFIL, NOTING THAT SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR TROOP INCREASES ARE CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION. HE HAD NO INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT A PURPORTED CHINESE LOAN OF 200 MILLION USD TO ZIMBABWE, BUT SAID CHINA HAS FRIENDLY COOPERATION WITH ZIMBABWE AND SUPPORTS ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

VISITS

¶15. AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT HU JINTAO, LITHUANIAN PRESIDENT VALDAS ADAMKUS WILL VISIT CHINA FROM SEPTEMBER 23-28.

¶16. VICE PREMIER OF THE STATE COUNCIL ZENG PEIYAN WILL VISIT FOUR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FROM SEPTEMBER 19-28: HUNGARY, AT THE INVITATION OF PRIME MINISTER FERENC GYURCSANY; BELGIUM, AT THE INVITATION OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE REYNDERS; IRELAND AT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT; AND THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY.

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